# What does the Matrix Convey about Reality?

The Matrix talks about what reality is and how we identify what reality is, how and why the reality that we think is reality is reality.

There are lots of ways of knowing that were used in the movie. For example when Morpheus was showing Neo what the real world was, he couldn’t just tell him. He had to take Neo out of the Matrix and let him see it for himself, this way of knowing would be sense perception. He also then used reason. Neo could’ve just thought that this was an illusion or something. But if he used reason as well, it would make him believe what he was seeing. If Morpheus had not used these two ways of knowing to prove to Neo that what he was saying was true, Neo could’ve just asked himself, “well, how do I know that what this complete stranger to me is saying, is actually true?”

The Matrix makes us think about and question what we think of as reality. It makes us think about how we know what we think of as reality is reality and how we identify it. When Morpheus asks Neo what reality is? He says that if reality is just what we can see, smell, hear, taste and feel, it’s just electrical signals transmitted to our brain. In other words, the reality that the Matrix is, it tells us with an electrical signal whether we can feel, taste or any of our other senses and what we feel with our senses. And if that’s all reality is, shouldn’t the Matrix be reality? However, that is not the case. The Matrix is just a way to deceive us, reality is more than just that. In the movie, reality is Zion and their true lives outside of the Matrix.

Morpheus tells Neo that, “all he offers is the truth.” But how can he actually be sure that what he knows is true? He said that there was one person that got out and told him about it, but how did that person know? And how did they get out? Or What Ways of Knowing allowed him to know that what he is saying is true? When we see the world in the Matrix, there are really no signs or ways of knowing that tell us that it is an illusion so we can’t know that it is an illusion unless we are released. Like how Neo was, but how do we know that the world that they were freed into isn’t just another layer in the Matrix, it’s not very farfetched to think that the machines created another world to further the illusion and deceive us if they had created this one.

It also tells us that there is in fact more than one reality, and reality and the truth may not be the same thing. For example a person in the Matrix and who’s unaware that they are in the Matrix, the Matrix is reality, but in actual fact, it is not. It is just an illusion. The same would go for an anorexic person. When they look at them self, they think they are overweight and that is their reality. But in actual fact, they are starving themselves.